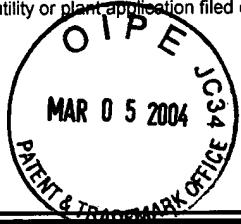


**REQUEST FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for the continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.



Application Number	09/926,803
Filing Date	December 20, 2001
First Named Inventor	Kanetaka Sekiguchi
Group Art Unit	2871
Name of Examiner	Thoi V. Duong
Attorney Docket No.	011701

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

Note: 37 C.F.R. §1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. §1.53 (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar 20, 2000) 1233 Off. Gazette Pat Office (April 11, 2000) which established RCE practice.

1.

RECEIVED

Submission Required Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

a. Previously submitted:

- i. Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 previously filed on _____
 (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered)
- ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
- iii. Other _____

b. Enclosed

- i. Amendment/Reply
- ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. Other: Petition for Extension of Time

MAR 09 2004

2.

Miscellaneous

a. Suspension of Action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. §1.103(c) for a period of _____ months (period shall not exceed three months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i) required)

b. Other _____

3. The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. §1.114 when the RCE is filed.

Fees

a. Checks in the amount of \$770.00 and \$420.00 are enclosed.

03/08/2004 CCHAU1	00000140	09926803
i. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (e) - (\$770.00)	01 FC:1801	770.00 OP
ii. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17) - (\$420.00)		
iii. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____		

b. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

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PAGE 2

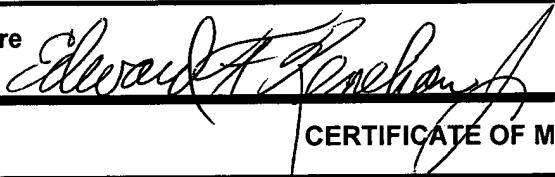
Atty Docket No. **011701**

SIGNATURE BY APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name **Edward F. Kenehan, Jr.**

Registration No.: **28,962**

Signature



Date: **March 5, 2004**

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, BOX RCE, Washington, D.C. 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

Name

Signature